

Massanutten Ministry Link

A Publication of Massanutten Presbyterian Church

November 14, 2007

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

November 18, 2007

Ordinary 33

Sermon Text

Isaiah 65:17-25

Sermon Title

A Whole New World

Worship Leader

Dick Miller

Hymns

For the Beauty of the Earth

O for a World

How Great Thou Art

November 25, 2007

Christ the King Sunday

Sermon Text

Luke 23:33-43

Sermon Title

A King Like No Other

Worship Leader

Ka Guinn

Hymns

All Hail the Power of Jesus'

Name

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

I Come with Joy

Next ROCK Event

Thanksgiving....

more than Turkeys and Touchdowns

Sunday, Nov. 18 at 10 am The Marketplace

Has Thanksgiving at your house turned into a football and feeding frenzy? Do your kids think the holiday is all about making turkey crafts in school and watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade? Join us as we take a fresh look at what this holiday can really be about for our families: giving thanks to God and each other for the many blessings in our lives. Learning to express gratitude is one of the most important lessons we teach our children. We'll explore creative, uplifting ways to give thanks, and we'll fellowship over some morning refreshments. We look forward to seeing you on the 18th!

News from Spectrum's Tour

Spectrum Teen Handbell Ensemble was on tour November 9-11. They performed Friday evening in Franklin, WV for the Pendleton County Nursing Home and played for worship at three churches on Sunday morning: Tannery Chapel, Rig Chapel and Moorefield Presbyterian Church. They enjoyed dinner with their hosts, home stays and lunch with the Moorefield Presbyterian Church congregation. Ringers are Austin Reed, John Levensgood, Marcus Sensabaugh, Matthew Martin, Jane Haines and Rachel Atkins with Kath Wissinger directing. Chaperones for the trip were Doug Sensabaugh and Kathleen Haines. Watch for posters of tour photos in the narthex in the coming weeks.



Massanutten
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*"At the crossroads of real life and abundant grace,
where God's children are...
meeting Christ in each other,
praying earnestly,
listening carefully,
singing joyfully,
and joining boldly
with the Spirit's work in the world."*

Assisting with the Lord's Supper

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship on Nov. 25. Officer Team 3 will be serving: Rhonda Stees, Heidi Wagner, Melissa Leecy, Marc Toothman, Vonnie West, Polly Wysor, Mark Palmer, Jennifer Bryant, Pam French, Tim Miller.

The following children will be serving as Communion Stewards: Jacob Laughlin, Brandon Stees, Brooke Branner, Kendra Strawderman

Communion Stewards and Servers should meet at **10:10 a.m.** at the Communion Table.

Food Pantry Schedule

Please note the adjusted dates for the Food Pantry times during December. The Food Pantry will be open from 10-11 a.m. on Monday, December 10.

The next issue of *The Massanutten Ministry Link* will be mailed on Dec. 5. Please submit to the church office any material for publication in the next newsletter by 3 pm on Nov. 28.

Brave Hearts of Massanutten

Mark you calendar for the December Blood Drive at MPC on Thursday, December 13. We are looking for a few good men and women to share the gift of life with someone in need at this critical time of year. Look for posters announcing the event, then sign-up for a time slot. It will take about an hour of your time to help a neighbor in need.

Middle School Youth

The **Middle School Youth** (grades 6-8) will meet on Sunday, November 18 from 11:45-1:00. Bring your lunch and meet in the Middle School Youth room. For more information contact Alana Miller at 433-1823.

Senior High Youth

The **Senior High Youth** will meet on Friday, November 16 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. in the Senior High Youth room for pizza and movie madness and on Sunday, November 25 from 11:45am-2:00pm. For more information contact Melissa Leecy at mleecy@comcast.net.

Serving Among Us	November 18, 2007	November 25, 2007
Greeters	Kevin and Rhonda Stees Becky and Josh Hylton	Dave Stubblefield and George Cross Jeannie Sutherland and Ruth Smith
Ushers	Fleming Jones, Ramona Ritchie, Chris Scott, Julie and Marcus Sensabaugh, Glenn Strawderman, Jeannie Sutherland, Sandy Taylor	Anne Bradley, Netta Coulter, Bud and Betty Long, Bob Milner, Dwight Newman, Robin Reed, Curt Schwalbach
Sunnyside Bus Driver	Tim Miller	Phil Miller
Acolyte	Logan Diehl	No Acolyte—Communion
Sunday School Nursery	Bonnie Moyers	Betsy Harvey
Infant Nursery	Hunter Davis and Sue Newman	Alayne Leggett and Stephanie Toothman
2 & 3 Year Old Nursery	Susie Diehl and Diane Schwalbach	Amy Bjorkgren and Gail Oppy
Floater	Pam French	Carol Way
Children's Church Leaders	Deb Comer and Vaniene Delucas	Robin Lam and Kim Phillips

Thank You from Your Pastors

Over the past several weeks we have had the interesting experience of being ‘singled out’ for appreciation during the month of October, the entirety of which is designated for that purpose. Thirty one days of being appreciated—that’s a humbling amount of time, and perhaps meant to be so. Nothing serves quite so well to keep us accountable to the primary tasks of what we’re called to do than hearing from others what they have found meaningful in our service. There are lessons to be learned both by what is said, and what is left unsaid, and we are indeed thankful for the many different ways we were appreciated these past several weeks.

With that in mind, one of the qualities of Massanutten Presbyterian Church that continues to be lifted up in our experience is that a foundational ‘culture of appreciation’ exists here. While we can speak to being on the receiving end of this many times, there are also countless comments and conversations we’ve been part of in which another person’s gifts, generosity, kindness, faith and much more have been acknowledged, respected and deeply appreciated. The Apostle Paul speaks volumes on the importance of lifting one another up, encouraging each other in the good, meaningful works of the faith through his letters. He most often put these words of appreciation in the

MPC Christmas Program and Dinner

On Sunday, December 16 you are invited for dinner with your church family. We will gather at 5:00 in the fellowship hall to enjoy turkey, dressing and gravy. Please bring a salad or vegetable to accompany the main course. We will also provide bread, drinks, and a light dessert.

Following dinner there will be a service of Lessons and Carols which will include readers and music groups from the congregation. Please put this date on your calendar so you’ll be here to share in the festivities of the season. You will be given an opportunity to make reservations for the dinner at worship on November 25 and December 2 and 9.

Full Birthday and Anniversary list for December will be included in the next *Ministry Link*.

opening sentences of his letters. Over and over again we read of his personal acknowledgement of the work and strength of the saints—lifting up their efforts, not for their own sake, but for the good of the church and the church’s mission in the world. The ‘culture of appreciation’ that we’ve experienced here at Massanutten, has its roots in the early church as it was learning what it was called to be and do in the world.

With the ‘season of thanksgiving’ now directly before us, it seems like a good time to return thanks for the opportunity to be in ministry together at Massanutten. The opportunity to serve this congregation as pastors is a privilege neither of us take lightly, and one to which we both strive to be ever more faithful. It is, however, a joyful calling as we are blessed to be in the midst of a committed body of Christ also striving to be ever more faithful in living out the call to serve in this place. As we enter into our fifth (John) and *almost* third (Ann) year with this congregation, please know that we give thanks to God for this congregation and are thankful, along with our families, to be serving God with you *at the crossroads of real life and abundant grace*.

From your pastors, with joy and thanksgiving,
Ann and John

Second Annual Evening of Giving

On Sunday, November 18, the Valley Mall is hosting their 2nd annual Evening of Giving from 6-9 pm. This private night of shopping reaches out to assist local charities in raising additional funds during the holiday season. On the evening of November 18 the mall will be reserved exclusively for the use of shoppers who have purchased \$10 “Evening of Giving” tickets. The event will feature store discounts throughout the mall, family entertainment, food samplings, and door prizes. Through the fundraiser, 100% of the proceeds from each \$10 ticket sale will benefit local, not-for-profit charities this year. The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Network is one of the charities this year. Some come out and shop for a cause. To purchase a ticket or for more information call 433-1797.

STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION THROUGH NOV. 4

Weekly Budget Need	\$11,652.00
Budget Need Year to Date	\$512,688.00
Received Year to Date	\$488,474.95
Difference	\$ -24,213.05

In response to the blessings of God in our lives, we give of ourselves—our time, our talents, our treasures, our hearts.

Turkey Feather Tree

The Board of Deacons invites you to participate in our efforts to make the Christmas Holidays a bit more enjoyable as we reach out to local families in need. The Turkey Feather Tree will be in the narthex on Sunday, November 18. Take a feather and purchase a gift for one of our Food Pantry friends. These gifts will be accepted until **Saturday, December 8**. Thank you to everyone who took a gift tag off of the Angel Tree last Sunday. These gifts will be distributed through Social Services and **need to be at the church by Sunday, November 25**.

Help make Jesus' Birthday a truly peaceful and loving holiday for our needy families.

-Massanutten Church Board of Deacons

Live into Hope Staffing Campaign

You still have time to make a commitment to the *Live into Hope Staffing Campaign*. The graphic reflects commitments from 74 giving units who together have pledged a total of \$118,387. Commitment cards are available in the sanctuary, the narthex, or from the church office.

We are thankful for your participation in the MPC community of faith, and we ask that you join us as we *live into the hope* God has given us.

Again, thank you for your generous giving to God through the ministry of Massanutten Presbyterian Church.



Opportunities for Spiritual Growth

Blue Ridge Ministries is offering the following Fall events: **November 17:** *“Let the Women Sing”* Concert directed by Angela Carroll, at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren at 7 pm. Come hear women from a variety of churches present an hour-long Thanksgiving service. The theme is *“God of Wonders”*.

December 1: *“Mary’s Song: An Advent Retreat”* led by Pastor Kevin Clark. From 9am-12:30 pm. Slow down the holiday pace to reflect on Mary’s Song, *“My soul magnified the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...”* MPC members Jean Beard and Sharon Bloomquist will participate in the concert.

Contact blueridgeministries@yahoo.com or 540-438-0023 for more information.

Christmas Benefit Concert at MPC

The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Concert Band, under the direction of William G. Posey, will present its annual Christmas Benefit Concert on Thursday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The concert is free, but there will be a free-will offering taken to benefit the Harrisonburg Area Habitat for Humanity. The concert will feature Christmas music from a wide variety of countries and in various styles. Last year was the first concert at MPC and it was a great success. Come be a part of this Holiday Concert!

Alternative Giving

Have you ever been in a quandary when seeking a way to honor a friend, to remember someone recently deceased, or celebrate a special event (e.g. Christmas) for someone? Many of us have closets full of clothing and shelves full of knick knacks. There is a way to celebrate our friends other than in buying them something. Honoring a friend through a gift to a charitable agency can be very special for the friend as well as for others. A gift to Church World Service, Heifer International, or the Volunteer Farm here in the Shenandoah Valley are three such worthy organizations. The next time you puzzle about what to give a friend, consider a special gift in honor or your friend. Brochures for these three organizations are found on the table in the narthex. Check them out.

Under the Radar



For her offertory solo at worship on November 4th, in honor of John Leggett's fourth anniversary among us, MPC's pianist **Sharon Bloomquist** played what the bulletin said was "Over the Blue Ridge" by Joseph Martin. This was the same piece she had played on John's first Sunday here. I was so taken by the piece I went up to her after worship ended, and I asked her "From which side of the Blue Ridge was the piece written—was it about the Valley, or the Piedmont?" "The bulletin didn't get it exactly right," she replied; "the title is properly 'On Top of the Blue Ridge.'" That cast a fresh light on the music for me.

For many of us, Sharon's sensitive accompaniments and exquisite solos are such as to make the words of the hymn come alive: "How often, making music, we have found / A new dimension in the world of sound, / As worship moved us to a more profound / Alleluia." Devoid of egotism and focused as intently on the music as she is, her pianistic skill is able to pull us higher and higher into worship, and we are grateful for the privilege of hearing her so many Sunday mornings. We thank God to have her on our radar screens. At chancel choir practice she is a steady, dependable accompanist who rarely makes a mistake and yet who brings lots of laughter to her work.

Sharon says she was blessed with a mother who started her taking piano lessons when she was eight and insisted she practice faithfully. She was blessed with good teachers along her way, with a particularly inspiring

one at Millikin University in Illinois. She and her husband Bob moved here from Westport, Connecticut and joined MPC 13 years ago. Wherever life has taken them, she has found ways to contribute her musical skills in a church and the larger community. She continues that pattern here as she accompanies the Blue Ridge Ministries choir. This interdenominational group of singers will perform on November 17th at 7 p.m. at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, and Sharon looks forward with palpable glee to a chance to play on that church's excellent instrument. Still another group she accompanies is the Valley Greeters Community Chorale, which practices at MPC. This group has six scheduled performances in various nursing homes and Generations Crossing during the coming holiday season.

Sharon flies under the radar in this church as well. She has served terms as a deacon and as an elder at MPC, and was our church's representative to the Central Valley Mission Community for several years. She served for four years as chair of the Shoshana Circle and is currently Moderator of MPC's Presbyterian Women. She works with the Youth Worship Team members as they prepare for occasions when they lead us in worship. One of her happiest memories is of the trip she took with MPC's youth choir several years ago, when the group performed at churches in Williamsburg, Virginia Beach, and Hampstead.

Sharon deeply appreciates MPC's members as "incredibly supportive" of her work. Her music has always been a primary way for her to communicate with God, and it shows through her performance. Thank you, Sharon, for taking us up to the top of the mountain, and bringing us closer to God through your dedicated life.

John Irvine, for the Make a Difference Task Force

News from Massanutten School

You are invited to participate in **Massanutten School's Southern Living at Home Fall Fundraiser**. Catalogs and order forms are available in the school and on the table in the narthex until November 19. Massanutten School will receive 25% on all items sold to help with the purchase of new books and hand-on materials for the classrooms. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Volunteers Needed

People Helping People is in desperate need of someone to help interview clients. This task requires you to be on the job one day a week (Mon.-Fri.) from 9:30-11:30 am. You may choose your day. Training will be given and a very capable staff will be available to support you. For more information or to volunteer, please call Bill Heinemann at 289-9000.

Hats Socks Gloves Mittens

It's time again for collecting warm clothing for those most affected by the coming cold weather. It is for the Zacchaeus Kitchen and Homeless Shelter in Washington, D.C., where they are distributed to many homeless and needy who have no warm clothing.

This winter, the Rev. Carl Moore, pastor at the Timber Ridge and Fairfield churches, will lead a group including members of the Bethesda church and others from the Rockbridge area to deliver the collected items.

Please follow these guidelines regarding the collection:

Ø Send only **NEW items** (like new used items will be accepted as well)

Ø Items accepted include hats, socks, gloves & mittens

Ø Pack all items in **plastic or paper bags** for easy packing in the van. (No boxes)

Ø Items may be left in the narthex in the box under the Presbyterian Women's table. All items must be at the church by **6:00 pm on Sunday, December 16**.

Ø Items being delivered to the presbytery office should **arrive no later than Tuesday, December 18, 4:30pm**.

MPC to Ring Salvation Army Bells

MPC church members and friends will be "*ringing the bell*" at the **Salvation Army Kettle** in the J. C. Penney corridor at Valley Mall on Saturday, December 2 from 10am-8pm. The Presbyterian Women would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help with this project.

College Scholarship Available

The Eiler Memorial Scholarship for Presbyterian Students from Rockingham County. Students must be accepted and planning to attend any Presbyterian-related college located within the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. Student or student's parent(s) must be engaged in agribusiness within the boundaries of Rockingham Country. This scholarship is administered by the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Church (USA).

Advent Intergenerational Event

The **Family Ministry Team** is planning an evening of fun and fellowship on Sunday, December 2 from 5-7 pm. This will be the first day of Advent and we will have stations set up for making Advent wreaths, Chrismons, and other items relating to Advent and Christmas. We will have a light finger food supper and then go to activity stations. This is an intergenerational activity, so make plans to attend.

Care Packages—Assembly Required

Please join the Congregational Care Ministry group on Sunday, November 25 to assemble care packages for our congregation's college students and those serving in the military. We will meet in the fellowship hall after church to prepare packages. **Please bring in shoeboxes that we can use for the packages.** If you want to make some homemade cookies or other treats to include, please package them in groups of 6 and drop them off in the kitchen before worship on November 25. If you want to write a note of encouragement to include in the packages, drop those off in the kitchen too. We hope to see you on November 25!

A Singing of Handel's *Messiah*

On Friday, December 7, Massanetta Springs will be sponsoring a singing of Handel's *Messiah*. Please note the evening's schedule, as well as important contact information.

5:30 p.m. Dinner in Historic Hotel

7:00 p.m. Singing in Stewart Hall

All of the community, church choirs, and congregations are invited to join in singing the great choruses of Handel's *Messiah*. Please plan on making this a special family or church event.

Christmas Dinner \$12 adults, \$6 for children 5-12, children under 5 free

The Messiah Singalong will conclude with a free-will offering. Dessert will follow the singing.

Please call the Conference Center at 434-3829 to make your reservation or email Laura Holbrook at laurah@massanettasprings.org.

As a Community of Priests, We Are Called to Prayer

MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Bill Jackson, Jane Burfoot, Mary Jo Slane, Edith Binkley, Eleanor McCaskill, Kelly Miller (Mission Trip to Africa); **Barbara Walker; Wilson Sidwell, John Gronemeyer**

FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Dave Taylor, brother of Diann Reed; **Don Grimes**, friend of our church family; **Amaya Kinley**, friend of our church family; **Logan Hill**, friend of Fleming and Sharon Jones; **Scott Dovel**, nephew of Warren and Sharon Dovel; **Cathy Austin** Butch Dutt's sister; **Jennifer Albertini**, niece of Keith and Linda Knupp; **David Rose**, nephew of Ann Wilkinson; **Judy Thompson**, cousin of Patti Hobbie; **Erick Kasten**, friend of Sharon Bloomquist; **Sue Ellen Church and Paul Lee**, friends of Kevin Caldwell; **Claude Ramey Jr.**, father of Angie Baylor; **Donnie Mongold**, friend of Robert and Susan Reid; **Jay Megaw**, friend of Bill and Sharon Posey; **Farah Saffsori**, friend of Steve and Sherry Gordon; **Teresa Schaffer**, friend of Tim and Cristy Long; **Galen Long**, father of Kim Showalter; **Wendee Constable**, friend of our church family; **Bruce Heine-mann** and his family, son of Bill and Sharon Heine-mann; **Lori Bruggema**, friend of Jacki Nickel; **Barbara Eye**, friend of Geri Black; **Flossie Quinn**, friend of our church family; **Malachi Kullander**, grandson of Rich and Patricia Ours

Thank you for continuing to keep us informed of on going prayer needs.

Thank You from the Deacons

Many thanks to the congregation for their donations of children's clothing, toys/equipment and baked goods for the consignment sale to benefit Amaya Kinley and her family on September 22nd. The total raised through the sale itself was \$1628.33; many additional contributions toward the family's medical expenses were also received. We are thankful to the congregation for their prayers, time, energy and support of this effort!

The Board of Deacons, Congregational Ministries

Birth Announcement

Rich and Patricia Ours have a new grandson, Malachi David Kullander. Malachi is the son of Daniel and Jamie Kullander and was born on October 21.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Mark B. Heltzel, son of Helen Groves (Department of Navy Medical and Surgery, Washington, D.C.)
Jon Guinn, son of Mike and Ka Guinn (stationed in Iraq)
Elizabeth "Lee" Davis, daughter of Marc and Nancy Davis (stationed in El Paso , TX)
Ryan Tarman, grandson of Dee and Martha Floyd (stationed in Washington)
Chad Ritchie, son of Robert and Ramona Ritchie (stationed in FL)
Chris Jerome, son of Bob Jerome (stationed in Naples, Italy)
Brent Rohrbaugh, brother of Rhonda Miller (stationed in Norfolk, VA)
Joey Arbogast, cousin of Dee Floyd (stationed in Iraq)
Stephanie Beard, granddaughter of Jean Beard (stationed in Germany)
Erin Burtner, cousin of Susan Newsome (stationed in Iraq)
Timothy Norville, friend of the Dobroths, Nickels, Wissingers and others of our church family (stationed in Iraq)
Rich Shull, nephew of Don and Dixie Dofflemyer (stationed in Iraq)

Thank you...

Marc and I are very blessed to have such a wonderful church family. We are very grateful for all the phone calls, cards, and prayers during my father's long illness and recent death. Your love and support has brought much comfort and healing to our family. Thank you so very much.

Stephanie Toothman.

December Birthdays Anniversaries

- 1 Polly Wysor, Kristin Cosby, Stephanie Dean
- 2 Marc Davis, Marta Armstrong
- 3 Kim L. Showalter
- 4 Garrett Robinson, Courtney Landes
- 5 Alan Miller, Jill Kincaid, Ashley Gordon
- 6 Clancy Green
- 7 John Garrison, Dabney Dean
- 8 Shannon Showalter, Amy Bjorkgren / Randy and Laura Atkins
- 9 Ann Pettit, McKenzie Harpine
- 10 Melody Branner
- 11 Kitty Leggett, Barbara Palmer, Dwight Wm. Newman, Jake Coffman



50 Indian Trail Road
Penn Laird, VA 22846

Phone: 540-434-6194
Fax: 540-434-3102
E-mail: mpcinfo@comcast.net

Sunday School—9 am (Sept.—May)
Sunday Worship—10:30 am

Church Staff

John P. Leggett, Pastor
Ann Pettit, Parish Associate in Member Care
Karen Leecy, Office Manager
Bob Jerome, Organist
Sharon Bloomquist, Pianist

Be sure to visit us on the Web!

www.massanuttenchurch.com

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Penn Laird, VA 22846
Permit #1

Sunday, November 18

9:00 am Church School
10:00 am Fellowship Coffee
(Fellowship Hall)
10:00 am Mini ROCK Event
(Market Place—108)
10:30 am Worship Service
11:45 am Middle School Youth
(Middle School Classroom)
1:00 pm Worship Service for Korean Presbyterian Church
4:30 pm Spectrum Teen Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm New Member Reception followed by Session Meeting (Gathering Area)

9:00 am Staff Meeting
9:15 am Crossroads Pealers Rehearsal
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

2:00 pm Small Group (Sunnyside)
7:00 pm Massanutten Ringers
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Thursday, November 22

Thanksgiving Day—Church Office and Massanutten School Closed

Friday, November 23

Church Office and Massanutten School Closed

Saturday, November 24

9:30 am Recorder Rehearsal

Sunday, November 25

9:00 am Church School
10:00 am Fellowship Coffee (Fellowship Hall)
10:30 am Worship Service
11:45 am Senior High Youth Lunch and Meeting (Youth Room)
1:00 pm Worship Service for Korean Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, November 27

6:30 pm Disciple 3 Bible Study

Wednesday, November 28

6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
8:30 am Volunteers Prepare Newsletter for Mailing
9:00 am Staff Meeting
10:30 am Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team
4:30 pm WOW
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Monday, November 19

9:00 am Disciple 3 Bible Study (Gathering Area)
7:00 pm Massanutten Ringers
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, November 20

6:30 pm Disciple 3 Bible Study (Gathering Area)

Wednesday, November 21

6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, November 29

12:00 pm MPC Clergy and Spouses Luncheon (Bethesda Theater, Sunnyside)
6:30 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study (Gathering Area)
7:00 pm Bridlewood Homeowners' Association (Room 119)

Monday, November 26

9:00 am Disciple 3 Bible Study
10:00 am Food Pantry